



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,938	06/26/2003	Isabelle Lallemand	Q71242	3415
23373 7590 05/24/2007 SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037				
			EXAMINER KAUFMAN, JOSEPH A	
			ART UNIT 3754	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 05/24/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/603,938

Applicant(s)

LALLEMANT ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph A. Kaufman

Art Unit

3754

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 9, 11-14 and 17-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 9, 11-14 and 17-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 8, 14, 17, 18, 23, 24, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Crampton et al. (WO 99/02424).

Crampton et al. disclose a fluid dispenser comprising two sheets (2, 3) cooperating to define a fluid reservoir (23), at least one of the two sheets defining a deformable actuating wall on which it is possible to press to put the fluid under pressure in the reservoir, said fluid dispenser being characterized in that it further comprises a dispensing piece (8) to which at least one of the sheets is fixed, said piece defining a dispensing orifice that is closed off by a removable closure member (10); in which the dispensing orifice opens out at an opening provided in one of the sheets; and a dispensing orifice is formed at the bottom of a concave recovery dish from which the fluid can be recovered by the user. When pressure is applied to the wall of the reservoir, some of the viscous fluid remains in the spout (8), which is a concave dish and the user can recover the fluid in this concave dish. Note in Figure 4 of Crampton how the dish extends outwardly from the orifice at (7) to a margin at (10), the dish's

concave shape being formed between these points (concave in a different direction from applicant, but still concave).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1, 8, 14, 17, 18, 23, 24, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crampton et al. in view of Rehberger.

Crampton et al. disclose a fluid dispenser comprising two sheets (2, 3) cooperating to define a fluid reservoir (23), at least one of the two sheets defining a deformable actuating wall on which it is possible to press to put the fluid under pressure in the reservoir, said fluid dispenser being characterized in that it further comprises a

dispensing piece (8) to which at least one of the sheets is fixed and a dispensing orifice opens out at an opening provided in one of the sheets. In an alternative interpretation of Crampton et al., the reference fails to disclose a concave recovery dish. Rehberger discloses a concave recovery dish used with a similar deformable wall dispenser. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used the concave recovery dish of Rehberger with the fluid dispenser of Crampton et al. in order to leave a desired quantity of fluid in the dish as taught by Rehberger.

5. Claims 2-6, 11, 19-22, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crampton et al. in view of Hoyt (US Patent Number 4,732,299).

Crampton et al. disclose a fluid dispenser comprising two sheets (2, 3) cooperating to define a fluid reservoir (23), at least one of the two sheets defining a deformable actuating wall on which it is possible to press to put the fluid under pressure in the reservoir, said fluid dispenser being characterized in that it further comprises a dispensing piece (8) to which at least one of the sheets is fixed, said piece defining a dispensing orifice that is closed off by a removable closure member (10); in which the dispensing orifice opens out at an opening provided in one of the sheets; and a dispensing orifice is formed at the bottom of a concave recovery dish from which the fluid can be recovered by the user (when pressure is applied to the wall of the reservoir, some of the viscous fluid remains in the spout (8), which is a concave dish and the user can recover the fluid in this concave dish). Crampton et al. fail to disclose the side bars. Hoyt discloses a similar fluid dispenser comprising two sheets (16, 18) cooperating to

Art Unit: 3754

define a fluid reservoir (20), at least one of the two sheets defining a deformable actuating wall on which it is possible to press to put the fluid under pressure in the reservoir, said fluid dispenser being characterized in that it further comprises a dispensing piece (14) to which at least one of the sheets is fixed, said piece defining a dispensing orifice (34) that is closed off by a removable closure member; in which the dispensing piece (14) comprises two side bars (46, 48) which extend on either side of the dispensing orifice; in which the sheets are fixed together over a peripheral-margin of the reservoir along a sealing line that extends at least in part adjacently to the bars, with the bars being situated inside the reservoir; in which the bars form a rigid inner side peripheral margin for the reservoir; in which the sheets are fixed to the bars to define a rigid outer peripheral margin for the reservoir; in which the bars meet to form a closed frame; in which the dispensing orifice opens out at an opening provided in one of the sheets; and a dispensing orifice is formed at the bottom of a concave recovery dish from which the fluid can be recovered by the user. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used the side bars of Hoyt with the device of Crampton et al. in order to provide a rigid portion connected to the dispensing orifice that is bonded to both sheets as taught by Hoyt.

6. Claims 2-6, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crampton et al. in view of Rehberger as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Hoyt.

The modified Crampton fails to disclose the side bars. Hoyt discloses a similar fluid dispenser comprising two sheets (16, 18) cooperating to define a fluid reservoir

Art Unit: 3754

(20), at least one of the two sheets defining a deformable actuating wall on which it is possible to press to put the fluid under pressure in the reservoir, said fluid dispenser being characterized in that it further comprises a dispensing piece (14) to which at least one of the sheets is fixed, said piece defining a dispensing orifice (34) that is closed off by a removable closure member; in which the dispensing piece (14) comprises two side bars (46, 48) which extend on either side of the dispensing orifice; in which the sheets are fixed together over a peripheral-margin of the reservoir along a sealing line that extends at least in part adjacently to the bars, with the bars being situated inside the reservoir; in which the bars form a rigid inner side peripheral margin for the reservoir; in which the sheets are fixed to the bars to define a rigid outer peripheral margin for the reservoir; in which the bars meet to form a closed frame; in which the dispensing orifice opens out at an opening provided in one of the sheets; and a dispensing orifice is formed at the bottom of a concave recovery dish from which the fluid can be recovered by the user. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used the side bars of Hoyt with the device of the modified Crampton in order to provide a rigid portion connected to the dispensing orifice that is bonded to both sheets as taught by Hoyt.

7. Claims 19-22 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crampton et al. in view of Rehberger and Hoyt.

Crampton et al. disclose a fluid dispenser comprising two sheets (2, 3) cooperating to define a fluid reservoir (23), at least one of the two sheets defining a

Art Unit: 3754

deformable actuating wall on which it is possible to press to put the fluid under pressure in the reservoir, said fluid dispenser being characterized in that it further comprises a dispensing piece (8) to which at least one of the sheets is fixed and a dispensing orifice opens out at an opening provided in one of the sheets. In an alternative interpretation of Crampton et al., the reference fails to disclose a concave recovery dish. Rehberger discloses a concave recovery dish used with a similar deformable wall dispenser. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used the concave recovery dish of Rehberger with the fluid dispenser of Crampton et al. in order to leave a desired quantity of fluid in the dish as taught by Rehberger. The modified Crampton fails to disclose the side bars. Hoyt discloses a similar fluid dispenser comprising two sheets (16, 18) cooperating to define a fluid reservoir (20), at least one of the two sheets defining a deformable actuating wall on which it is possible to press to put the fluid under pressure in the reservoir, said fluid dispenser being characterized in that it further comprises a dispensing piece (14) to which at least one of the sheets is fixed, said piece defining a dispensing orifice (34) that is closed off by a removable closure member; in which the dispensing piece (14) comprises two side bars (46, 48) which extend on either side of the dispensing orifice; in which the sheets are fixed together over a peripheral-margin of the reservoir along a sealing line that extends at least in part adjacently to the bars, with the bars being situated inside the reservoir; in which the bars form a rigid inner side peripheral margin for the reservoir; in which the sheets are fixed to the bars to define a rigid outer peripheral margin for the reservoir; in which the bars meet to form a closed frame; in

which the dispensing orifice opens out at an opening provided in one of the sheets; and a dispensing orifice is formed at the bottom of a concave recovery dish from which the fluid can be recovered by the user. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used the side bars of Hoyt with the device of the modified Crampton in order to provide a rigid portion connected to the dispensing orifice that is bonded to both sheets as taught by Hoyt.

8. Claims 9, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crampton et al. in view of Provenza (WO 01/79073).

Crampton et al. disclose a fluid dispenser comprising two sheets (2, 3) cooperating to define a fluid reservoir (23), at least one of the two sheets defining a deformable actuating wall on which it is possible to press to put the fluid under pressure in the reservoir, said fluid dispenser being characterized in that it further comprises a dispensing piece (8) to which at least one of the sheets is fixed, said piece defining a dispensing orifice that is closed off by a removable closure member (10); in which the dispensing orifice opens out at an opening provided in one of the sheets; and a dispensing orifice is formed at the bottom of a concave recovery dish from which the fluid can be recovered by the user (when pressure is applied to the wall of the reservoir, some of the viscous fluid remains in the spout (8), which is a concave dish and the user can recover the fluid in this concave dish). Crampton et al. fail to disclose the radial channels and ribs. Provenza discloses radial ribs and channels used in a similar collapsible reservoir. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art

Art Unit: 3754

to have used the radial ribs and channels or Provenza with the device of Crampton in order to aid in completely withdrawing the liquid from the reservoir as taught by Provenza.

9. Claims 9, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crampton et al. in view of Rehberger as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Provenza.

The modified Crampton fails to disclose the radial channels and ribs. Provenza discloses radial ribs and channels used in a similar collapsible reservoir. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have used the radial ribs and channels or Provenza with the device of the modified Crampton in order to aid in completely withdrawing the liquid from the reservoir as taught by Provenza.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph A. Kaufman whose telephone number is (571) 272-4928. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 5:30AM-2PM.

Art Unit: 3754

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver can be reached on (571) 272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Joseph A. Kaufman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3754
5/23/07

jak
May 23, 2007